IS MARS ALIVE? (SATURDAY REVIEW)
ANCIENT INDIAN VILLAGE WHERE TIME STOOD STILL
(SMITHSONIAN)
THE FIFTY-FIFTY MARRIAGE (WOMAN'S DAY)

IS MARS ALIVE? (SATURDAY REVIEW)

NARR: IF ALL GOES WELL, TWO VIKING SPACECRAFT WILL LAND ON THE SURFACE OF MARS ON JULY 4, 1976 -- THE TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE. WHAT THE LANDERS WILL FIND IS A MATTER OF GREAT CURIOSITY, NOT ONLY TO SCIENTISTS, BUT ALSO TO MUCH OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

MAN HAS BEEN WONDERING WHETHER THERE IS LIFE ON MARS FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS. BIOLOGIST AND SCIENCE-FICTION WRITER ISAAC ASIMOV, WRITING IN THE SATURDAY REVIEW, TELLS HOW THE OBSERVATIONS OF THE 19TH-CENTURY ITALIAN ASTRONOMER SCHIAPARELLI GAVE CREDENCE TO THE NOTION OF INTELLIGENT LIFE ON MARS.

VOICE: "SCHIAPARELLI NOTED DARK AREAS THAT HE CONSIDERED TO BE
BODIES OF WATER, AND LIGHT AREAS THAT HE CONSIDERED TO BE
LAND. CONNECTING THE DARK AREAS, SCHIAPARELLI SAW,

VOICE: (CONT'D)

WERE A FEW DARK MARKINGS THAT WERE RATHER STRAIGHT AND THIN. HE THOUGHT THESE WERE NARROW CONNECTING WATERWAYS, AND CALLED THEM CAMALI, BY WHICH HE MEANT CHANNELS, OR MERELY 'NARROW WATERWAYS.' HOWEVER, CANALI WAS TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH AS CANALS, WHICH ARE, OF COURSE, MANMADE WATERWAYS. IN THIS WAY, ALMOST EXACTLY A CENTURY AGO, THE 'CANALS OF MARS' ENTERED THE THINKING OF ASTRONOMERS AND NON-ASTRONOMERS ALIKE, AND THE NOTION AROSE OF MARS AS INHABITED BY A RACE OF INTELLIGENT BEINGS."

NACR:

MISTER ASIMOV ADMITS THAT THE IDEA DIDN'T SEEM UNREASONABLE. ALTHOUGH MARS IS SHALLER AND COLDER THAN THE EARTH, IT IS NOT VERY NUCH SHALLER AND COLDER. IT HAS AN ATMOSPHERE AND SEASONS. ITS LOWER SURFACE GRAVITY -- ONLY TWO-FIFTHS THAT OF THE EARTH -- MEANT THAT MARS "MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO HOLD ON TO AIR AND WATER AS OUR OWN WORLD CAN." III MISTER ASIMOV'S WORDS. SOME PEOPLE BEGAN TO THINK OF "THE CANAL-BUILDING MARTIANS" AS A RACE OF "IHDOMITABLE ENGINEERS, FIGHTING TO KEEP THEIR SHALL PLANET VIABLE AGAINST THE SLOW BUT STEADY LOSS OF WATER THAT WAS LEAVING IT LARGELY DESERT."

FURTHER RESEARCH EXPLODED THIS FANCIFUL BELIEF. NOT ALL ASTRONOMERS WERE ABLE TO SEE THE CANALS THROUGH THEIR TELESCOPES. AS SCIENTISTS STUDIED MARS MORE CLOSELY, THEY DISCOVERED THAT IT WAS EVEN COLDER AND DRIER THAN IT HAD SEEMED AT FIRST. ITS ATMOSPHERE WAS QUITE THIN AND CONTAINED NO OXYGEN -- ONLY CARBON DIOXIDE. THE PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY THE MARS-PROBE MARINER - FOUR IN

NARR: (CONT'D) 1965 REVEALED A DRY, CRATERED SURFACE MUCH LIKE THAT OF
THE MOON. THE CHANCES FOR THE EXISTENCE OF LIFE BEGAN TO
SEEM SLIMMER. BUT SOME SCIENTISTS STILL BELIEVE THAT
WATER ONCE FLOWED ON THE SURFACE OF MARS. THEY POINT
TO GEOLOGICAL FEATURES THAT LOOK LIKE DRY RIVERGEDS IN
THE PHOTOGRAPHS — AND THEY THEORIZE THAT SOME WATER
MAY STILL EXIST, IN FROZEN FORM, IN THE MARTIAN ICE—
CAPS. SOME ASTRONOMERS BELIEVE THAT MARS MAY GO THROUGH
CYCLES OF CLIMATIC CHANGE LASTING TENS OF THOUSANDS OF
YEARS. IN MISTER ASINOV'S WORDS:

VOICE:

"SLOW PERIODIC CHANGES MAY PRODUCE SLIGHTLY COLDER

MEATHER ON THE AVERAGE, OVER A PERIOD OF SOME TENS OF

THOUSANDS OF YEARS, THEN SLIGHTLY MILDER WEATHER, OVER

ANOTHER PERIOD OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF YEARS. THERE

MOULD THUS BE A 'GLACIAL PERIOD' (SUCH AS IS AFFLICTING

MARS NOW) WITH PRONOUNCED ICE CAPS AND A VERY THIN

ATMOSPHERE. IN THE MILDER PERIODS, THE ICE CAPS MIGHT

MELT; THE WATER WOULD FORM LAKES AND RIVERS, WHILE

CARBON DIOXIDE WOULD VAPORIZE AND BUILD UP A FAIRLY

THICK ATMOSPHERE. DURING THE MILDER PERIODS, MARS

MIGHT BE QUITE HOSPITABLE TO LIFE. IT WOULD NOT BE AT

ALL SURPRISING, THEN, IF SIMPLE FORMS OF LIFE APPEARED

ON MARS DURING THE MILD PERIODS, AND SURVIVED AS SPORES

THROUGH THE LONG WINTER, TO THAW OUT AND FLOURISH AGAIN

IN THE NEXT MILD PERIOD."

NARR:

IF JULY'S VIKING LANDINGS SUCCEED, THE EXPERIMENTS CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTOMATED EQUIPMENT ABOARD THE TWO SPACECRAFT SHOULD EITHER BEAR OUT THESE SPECULATIONS --OR PUT THEN TO REST. VARIOUS INSTRUMENTS WILL "ANALYZE THE SOIL, TEST FOR WATER, TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE SURFACE, MEASURE TEMPERATURES, STUDY THE ATMOSPHERE, SENSE GROUND-QUAKES, AND SO ON. BOTH THE ATMOSPHERE AND THE SOIL WILL BE TESTED FOR THE PRESENCE OF ORGANIC MOLECULES." ACCORDING TO MISTER ASIMOV, "THE MERE EXISTENCE OF SUCH MOLECULES WOULD BE STRONG, IF NOT CONCLUSIVE, EVIDENCE OF THE PRESENCE OF LIFE." AND EVEN IF THE VIKING LANDERS DO NOT DISCOVER LIFE ON MARS, MISTER ASIMOV FEELS THE COSTLY EXPERIMENT WILL STILL HAVE BEEN USEFUL. IN HIS WORDS:

VOICE: THARS WOULD THEN HAVE AN INTERESTING DIFFERENCE FROM EARTH. THE TWO WORLDS, NOT VERY DIFFERENT, WOULD HAVE DEVELOPED ALONG TWO BRANCHES, ONE WITHOUT LIFE AND ONE WITH LIFE. FROM THE DIFFERENCE IN THE DEVELOPMENTS, WE MIGHT LEARN, MORE PRECISELY THAN ME CAN POSSIBLY KNOW NOW, WHAT THE EFFECT OF LIFE (BASIC NON-INTELLIGENT LIFE) HAS BEEN ON THE EARTH. THIS MIGHT GIVE US A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF PLANETARY PROCESSES. IT MIGHT MEAN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS, FOR INSTANCE, AND COULD, CONCEIVABLY, CONTRIBUTE TO OUR ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND AND DEAL WITH THE MATTER OF AIR POLLUTION."

NARR:

MISTER ASIMOV CONCLUDES BY SAYING THAT WHATEVER THE RESULTS OF THE VIKING MISSION, "WE SHOULD SOMEDAY, IN OUR OWN INTEREST, SEND A MANNED EXPEDITION TO MARS. HUMAN BEINGS MUST LOOK AT THE PLANET, SINCE NO MACHINE IS AS VERSATILE, OR AS ABLE TO DEAL WITH THE UNEXPECTED AS IS THE HUMAN BRAIL."

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ANCIENT INDIAN VILLAGE WHERE TIME STOOD STILL (SMITHSONIAN)

NARR:

THE NORTHWEST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES ONCE SHELTERED SEVERAL DIFFERENT AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURES. ALTHOUGH MANY INDIANS STILL LIVE IN THE REGION TODAY, THEIR WAY OF LIFE HAS ALTERED GREATLY -- AND MUCH OF THE CULTURE OF THEIR ANCESTORS HAS BEEN LOST. ON THE PACIFIC COAST OF THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON, HOWEVER, ARCHAEOLOGISTS MAVE DEEN EXCAVATING A 300-YEAR-OLD MAKAH INDIAN VILLAGE SINCE 1966, AND LEARNING A GREAT DEAL IN THE PROCESS. DOCTOR RICHARD DAUGHERTY, WHO DIRECTS THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG, EXPLAINS IN SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE HOW THE VILLAGE WAS PRESERVED FROM THE RAVAGES OF TIME:

VOICE:

"THE TIME WAS SOMETHING MORE THAN 300 YEARS AGO; THE PLACE OZETTE, A MAKAH INDIAN WHALING VILLAGE ON THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA IN WASHINGTON STATE. RAIN MAY WELL HAVE BEEN TURNING THE EARTH SODDEN AT THE TIME, UNITING SKY AND SEA INTO A SINGLE GRAYNESS. THE GREAT WINTER CEREMONIALS MUST HAVE BEEN OVER, THE MASKS AND REGALIA PUT AWAY FOR ANOTHER YEAR, AND THE SEASON OF

VOICE: (CONT'D) GARNERING THE RESOURCES OF OCEAN AND FOREST WELL BEGUN.

YET DURING THE NIGHT DISASTER SWEPT THROUGH THE VILLAGE.

A HILLSIDE GAVE WAY AND ENTIRE HOUSES WERE SEALED BENEATH
EIGHT TO TWELVE FEET OF WET CLAY."

NARR:

ACCORDING TO DOCTOR DAUGHERTY, "MOST OF THE VILLAGE ESCAPED THE TRAGEDY -- AND IRONICALLY, LATER HOUSES HAVE LONG SINCE VANISHED, VIRTUALLY WITHOUT PHYSICAL TRACE, WHEREAS THE ONES SEALED BENEATH THE MUDFLOW REMAIN. OZETTE IS A POMPEII IN MUD INSTEAD OF VOLCANIC ASH, AN ARCHAEOLOGIST'S DREAM."

DOCTOR DAUGHERTY AND HIS COLLEAGUES WERE FORCED TO USE

AN UNUSUAL TECHNIQUE TO EXCAVATE THE VILLAGE, SINCE

CONVENTIONAL DIGGING WITH SHOVELS AND TROWELS WOULD

HAVE DESTROYED THE FRAGILE ARTIFACTS PRESERVED IN THE

DAMP CLAY. IN HIS WORDS:

VOICE:

"THE ANSWER HAS BEEN WATER. WE LAID PLASTIC PIPES
FROM THE REEF TO THE SITE. THIS LETS US PUMP MATER
FROM THE OCEAN WITH ENOUGH VOLUME AND PRESSURE TO WASH
AWAY THE OVERBURDEN OF THE MUDFLOW. THEM, ONCE DOWN
TO A HOUSE LEVEL, WE SWITCH TO THE FINE SPRAY OF
ORDINARY GARDEN HOSES. THE SYSTEM WORKS SO WELL THAT
WE HAVE RECOVERED MATERIAL AS INCREDIBLY FRAGILE AS
ALDER LEAVES AND AS MINUTE AS SHAVINGS LEFT BY A
WOODWORKER."

NARR:

ONCE VARIOUS OBJECTS ARE EXCAVATED, THEY MUST BE
IMMEDIATELY SUBMERGED IN PRESERVATIVE, OR ELSE THEY
WILL DECAY. THE PRESERVING TECHNIQUE USED BY DOCTOR
DAUGHERTY AND HIS COLLEAGUES FROM WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY HAS HAD VERY GOOD RESULTS SO FAR. AFTER
A WEEK'S SOAKING IN CARBOWAX, A CHEMICAL RELATED TO
AUTOMOBILE ANTIFREEZE, ARTICLES "TOO FRAGILE TO TOUCH
AS THEY COME FROM THE EXCAVATION END UP SAFE TO
MANIPULATE FOR STUDY, AND, ULTIMATELY, TO DISPLAY."
DOCTOR DAUGHERTY WRITES THAT MANY ARTICLES "HAVE BEEN
OUT OF THE PRESERVATIVE VATS FOR FIVE YEARS WITHOUT
SHOWING ANY NOTICEABLE SIGNS OF DETERIORATION." AND
HE DESCRIBES THE INDIAN LIFESTYLE REVEALED BY THESE
ARTIFACTS:

VOICE:

"FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS (ENDING ONLY A GENERATION AGO)

MEN HAVE BEEN PADDLING OUT PAST OZETTE'S PROTECTIVE

REEF AND ISLANDS TO HUNT AT SEA. HARD WORK. DANGEROUS.

AND UNCERTAIN. BUT FOR THE SUCCESSFUL, IT WAS DOUBTLESS

ATTENDED BY GREAT PRESTIGE. PERHAPS THE VERY DAY OF

THE DISASTER HUNTERS HAD PADDLED HOME WITH A WHALE IN

TOW AND ACCEPTED THE VILLAGERS' ADMIRATION AS THE

BUTCHERING GOT UNDER WAY ON THE BEACH. POSSIBLY SOMEONE

HAD CARRIED FRESH BLUBBER -- A DELICACY -- UP TO ONE

OF THE HOUSES. CERTAINLY THEY DID THIS AT TIMES, FOR

WE HAVE FOUND THE EVIDENCE IN ONE HOUSE: HUGE BARNACLES

OF A KIND THAT INFEST THE SKINS OF BALEEN WHALES ONLY.

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ROLLS OF CEDAR BARK APPARENTLY FRESH FROM THE FOREST,

HAD BEEN BROUGHT INTO ANOTHER HOUSE, WHICH STOOD SLIGHTLY

FOR

VOICE: LOWER ON THE TERRACE THAN TWO OTHERS WE HAVE BEEN WORKING (CONT'D)

ON. THE BARK WAS TO BE SPLIT AND DRIED FOR MAKING CLOTHING,

MATS, POUCHES, DASKETS, AND ALL MANNER OF USEFUL ITEMS."

THE ANCIENT MAKAH INDIANS LIVED ALMOST ENTIRELY FROM
THE FOREST AND THE SEA, OBTAINING NEARLY EVERYTHING THEY
NEEDED FROM THESE TWO SOURCES. DOCTOR DAUGHERTY AND HIS
COLLEAGES HAVE DISCOVERED NO WESTERN TRADE GOODS AT THE
SITE; THE VILLAGE MUST HAVE BEEN BURIED BEFORE TRADE
WITH NON-INDIANS BEGAN. THE PURPOSE OF MANY ARTICLES
FOUND COULD NOT HAVE BEEN DETERMINED WITHOUT THE HELP
OF MAKAH INDIANS FROM THE NEAH BAY RESERVATION NEARBY,
SOME OF WHOM WERE FLOWN TO THE SITE BY HELICOPTER.
MANY ARTIFACTS WILL EVENTUALLY BE DISPLAYED IN A NEW

MUSEUM NOW BEING CONSTRUCTED ON THE RESERVATION.

AS DOCTOR DAUGHERTY POINTS OUT:

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VOICE:

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"THE WHOLE UNDERTAKING, FROM THE FIRST EXCAVATION AT OZETTE IN 1966 TO THE OPENING OF THE MAKAH MUSEUM SCHEDULED FOR EARLY 1977, HAS SERVED TO MAKE THE PAST A PART OF THE PRESENT. THAT ALWAYS IS THE FUNCTION OF ARCHAEOLOGY, BUT IN THIS CASE THE KNOWLEDGE GAINED ALSO SERVES THE HEIRS OF THE OZETTE PEOPLE."

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THE FIFTY-FIFTY MARRIAGE (WOMAN'S DAY) 3-3401

NARR: FEW AMERICAN MEN ARE AS DRAVE -- OR, IN SOME PEOPLE'S
WAY OF THINKING, AS FOCLISH -- AS JOURNALIST MIKE
MCGRADY. IN 1974, MISTER MCGRADY AND HIS WIFE AGREED
TO EXCHANGE ROLES FOR A YEAR. MRS. MCGRADY WOULD

NARR: (CONT'D) SUPPORT THE FAMILY WITH THE INCOME FROM HER SUCCESSFUL PLASTICS PRODUCTS BUSINESS, AND MISTER MCGRADY WOULD STAY HOME AND CARE FOR THE HOUSE AND CHILDREN.

THE EXPERIENCE WAS AN EYE-OPENER FOR BOTH OF THEM.

MISTER MCGRADY DISCOVERED THAT BEING A HOUSEWIFE WAS

FAR MORE DEMANDING THAN HE HAD THOUGHT. AND MRS. MCGRADY

FOUND THAT HAVING AN OUTSIDE JOB MADE HER LESS ANXIOUS

ABOUT MANY DETAILS OF HOUSEKEEPING THAN SHE HAD BEEN

BEFORE. WHEN THE YEAR WAS UP, MISTER MCGRADY SAYS:

VOICE: "I CONFESS THAT SOMEWHERE IN THE DEPTH OF MY MALE HEART
WAS THE NOTION THAT WHEN IT ENDED, WE WOULD FLIP BACK
THE PAGES OF THE CALENDAR AND LIVE LIFE THE WAY WE ONCE
HAD. 'IF YOU THINK I'M GOING BACK TO THAT, YOU'RE
CRAZY,' CORINNE INFORMED ME. CORINNE IS A SLENDER
BRUNETTE WITH A WILL OF STEEL, AND WHEN SHE SPEAKS
LIKE THAT, SHE MEANS IT.

"THIS BRINGS US TO THE NEXT LOGICAL STEP -- THE ARRANGEMENT
WE HAVE NOW -- A FIFTY-FIFTY MARRIAGE. WE TAKE TURNS
BEING THE HOUSEWIFE -- ONE WEEK ON, ONE WEEK OFF. III THE
BEGINNING THERE WERE NO BLUEPRINTS OR ROAD MAPS TO GUIDE
US, NO WAY OF KHOWING FOR SURE WHAT AHEAD."

NARR: MISTER MCGRADY SAYS THE NEW ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN A

LIBERATING EXPERIENCE FOR HIS WIFE. AND HE QUOTES HER:

PLACE I MANT TO BE."

VOICE: "I THINK THAT YEAR IN THE OFFICE OPENED MY EYES TO (FEMALE)

ANY NUMBER OF THINGS. BUT ONE OF THE MAIN CHANGES

IS THIS -- I NO LONGER FEEL ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING THAT TAKES PLACE AROUND HERE. I DON'T GO AROUND FOREVER PICKING UP SHOES AND SMEATERS THAT THE KIDS HAVE LEFT LYING AROUND. I USED TO THINK I WAS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERY SINGLE THING THAT HAPPENED TO EVERY SINGLE PERSON UNDER THIS ROOF. IN THE OLD DAYS I FELT TRAPPED, AND IT WAS A DEADENING EXPERIENCE. NOW I FEEL THAT I'M HERE BECAUSE IT'S A

NARR: MISTER MCGRADY REPORTS THAT "CORINNE'S NEWLY FOUND

DISENCHANTMENT WITH HOUSECLEANING LEADS TO A MEASURABLY

DUSTIER HOUSE, BUT IT ALSO HAS PRODUCED A MEASURABLY MORE

CONTENT CORINNE." AS FOR HIMSELF, HE SAYS, THE NEW

ARRANGEMENT HAS CHANGED HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD EARNING

MONEY.

WOICE: "INITIALLY, AS I STOPPED BEING A HOUSE-HUSBAND AND WENT BACK TO PAYING BILLS, THERE WAS A SMALL SENSE OF PANIC.

ONCE YOU STOP EARNING A PAYCHECK, YOU FORGET THAT IT

CAN BE DONE. OF COURSE, SINCE I AM NOW SOLELY A FREE
LANCE WRITER, I AM IN A POSITION THAT IS BOTH HELPFUL

TO OUR CURRENT ARRANGEMENT, BECAUSE OF THE FREE TIME INVOLVED,

AND LESS RELIABLE BECAUSE THE MONEY DOES NOT COME WITH

THE REGULARITY OF A SALARY. IT TURNS OUT, THOUGH, DESPITE

MY WORST FEARS, THAT I STILL AM ABLE TO MAKE A LIVING.

AT LEAST HALF A LIVING. BECAUSE THIS YEAR THERE IS A

VOICE: (CONT'D) BIG DIFFERENCE -- THIS YEAR I'M PAYING ONLY HALF THE
BILLS. AND WITH THE ECONOMIC PRESSURE CUT IN HALF, THE
JOB ITSELF NO LONGER SEEMS OF SUCH OVERWHELMING IMPORTANCE."

NARR:

MISTER MCGRADY SAYS THAT WITH MONEYMAKING NO LONGER SUCH
AN OVERWHELMING FEATURE OF HIS LIFE, HE FEELS MORE
ABLE TO TAKE VACATIONS WHEN HE WANTS TO, INSTEAD OF
BEING A SLAVE TO A SCHEDULE. HE REPORTS THAT ALL
MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY HAVE BECOME MORE INDEPENDENT,
LESS TIED TO FIXED PATTERNS OF BEHAVIOR, AND MORE WILLING TO
HELP EACH OTHER. BUT HE ADMITS THAT THE FIFTY-FIFTY MARRIAGE
IS NOT FOR EVERYONE:

VOICE:

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"MOST COULDN'T MAKE THE ADJUSTMENTS. MOST PEOPLE ALREADY HAVE A FULLY DEVELOPED NETWORK OF OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES -- NINE-TO-FIVE JOBS, CHILDREN GROWING UP, PRESSING FINANCIAL NEEDS. SOME PEOPLE WOULD SAY THAT WE ARE LUCKY TO BE ABLE TO DO IT, AND THE IDEA OF AN ABSOLUTELY EQUAL DIVISION WOULD SEEN UTOPIAN TO THEM.

NARR:

THE IDEA OF FIFTY-FIFTY MARRIAGE WILL SOMEDAY BE MUCH
LESS OF A NOVELTY. HE OBSERVES THAT "MANY YOUNG PEOPLE
SEEN TO BE ENTERING MARRIAGE LOOKING FOR EQUALITY AND NOT
JUST BALANCE." AND HE CONCLUDES:

VOICE: "IF YOU DETECT A CERTAIN LIGHTNESS IN MY SPIRIT AS I

FINISH THIS, IT IS BECAUSE MY WEEK AS WIFE HAS JUST ENDED

AND MY WEEK AS A HUSBAND IS ABOUT TO BEGIN. IF THERE

IS ONE THING WE HAVE AGREED UPON UNANIMOUSLY IT IS THE

FACT THAT BEING A HUSBAND IS EASIER. WE BOTH HAVE TRIED

IT AND WE KNOW."

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WJL/PY/CAK